

# 2003-4 Report of Accomplishments Underwood Conservation District



## Natural Resource Improvements in 2003-4 - Summary

- *Maintenance of 9,100 feet of fence* in Rattlesnake creek drainage
- *Planting of 1,750 trees* under Cost-share program in the White Salmon and Jewett Creek watersheds, and via Wind River BPA Contract
- *Continued removal work on 10 acres of scotch broom* along the Wind River
- *Water Quality Monitoring* on 31 sites within the White Salmon and Wind River Watersheds
- *Sale of 73,000 trees* to landowners under District Tree Sales Program
- *Distribution of 1,600 free trees* on Arbor Day 2004
- *Technical Assistance and Engineering Survey Assistance* to 45 Landowners in the District



## Mission of the Underwood Conservation District

The Underwood Conservation District's goal is to enhance the level of natural resource stewardship exercised by landowners, managers and resource users in the district. The actual programs used by the UCD to accomplish the stewardship goal can be divided into four main categories:

- *Direct conservation action,*
- *Facilitation of conservation action through providing technical assistance and cost-sharing opportunities to landowners,*
- *Promoting better stewardship by conducting citizen involvement and environmental education projects and,*
- *Monitoring of project enactment and environmental results for purposes of measuring progress and adapting programs to meet changing needs.*

## Water Quality Implementation

- *Planting of 400 trees* under Cost-share program in the White Salmon watershed that help shade district streams
- *Maintenance of 9,100 feet of fence* in Rattlesnake creek drainage, helping to keep cattle from the creek and enhancing water quality
- *Coordination of 14 meetings* of Jewett Creek Streamkeepers and White Salmon River Watershed Management Committees, providing forums for information exchange, project review, and landowner education
- *Monthly monitoring of 4 piezometers, shallow ground-water wells, in upper Snyder creek watershed (Klickitat River)*

## Bonneville Power Administration Rattlesnake Creek Contract (Salmonid Restoration)

- *Monitoring water temperature at 16 sites* within the White Salmon watershed
- *Monitoring water chemistry at 17 sites* within the White Salmon watershed
- *Continuing monitoring and development of a rating curve* for the new Gauging station
- *Monitoring background levels of carbon isotopes* at five sites in Rattlesnake creek.
- *Monthly monitoring of 8 piezometers, shallow ground-water wells, in upper Rattlesnake creek watershed*

### **Bonneville Power Administration Wind River Contract (Salmonid Restoration)**

- *Facilitation of 10 meetings of the Wind River Watershed Council*, a local stakeholder group
- *Facilitation of 4 meetings of the White Salmon/Wind River Technical Advisory Group*, a Technical committee supporting local stakeholder groups
- *Continuous monitoring of water temperature at 7 sites* within the Wind River watershed
- *Monthly monitoring of water chemistry at 5 sites* within the upper Trout Creek drainage, a tributary of the Wind River
- *Assisting USGS in accomplishing 2 rounds of water quality sampling*
- *Continuing control of scotch broom on 10 acres* along the Wind River
- *Reforestation approximately 4 acres with 1,350 trees* along the Wind River
- *Monitoring reforestation efforts* from this year and past years, via photo documentation and on-the-ground surveys
- *Accomplishing photo documentation monitoring* of Stabler Cut-bank stability project

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### **Professional Engineering and Technical Assistance**

- *Preparing preliminary bank stabilization plans* for 4 landowners in the Trout Lake Valley, and 1 landowner in the Wind River Valley.
- *Provided Technical Assistance to 41 landowners* (phone calls, visits, and drop-in visitors). We provided verbal assistance, on-site visits, and ongoing involvement depending on the circumstances of the requests.

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### **Community Collaboration & Coordination**

- *Coordination of 4 Stakeholder or Technical Advisory Groups involving 28 meetings* providing for information exchange, education, and project review opportunities.
- *Hosting two composting workshops*, teaching local landowners about methods of composting, in cooperation with Klickitat County
- *With NRCS, Developing 6 CRMP-related EQIP plans and coordinating 6 CRMP committees*

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### **Information & Education**

- *Completed a Composting Demonstration Site*, teaching local landowners about methods of composting, in cooperation with Klickitat County
- *Hosted two Fire Awareness sessions*, helping landowners to become aware of methods to protect their property from wildfire
- *Participated in two local Community Fairs*, White Salmon Springfest and Skamania County Fair, dispensing information about the District and soliciting input and projects from District residents.
- *Assisted local schools in Water Quality Education Efforts*. UCD assisted Whitson Elementary School in White Salmon, and Wind River Middle School in Carson, in water quality monitoring efforts by students, enhancing student understanding and awareness of water quality values.
- *Sold 73,000 trees to District Landowners* under the District's annual Tree Sales program.
- *Distributed 1,676 free trees to 170 landowners* during Arbor Day, 2004, increasing local awareness of the importance of trees in Conservation.

### **Washington Conservation Districts assisting land managers with their conservation choices**